

AR EL TORO

M60050_003918
MCAS EL TORO
SSIC NO. 5090.3.A



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

21 October 2004

Mr. F. Andrew Piszkin
BRAC Environmental Coordinator
Base Realignment and Closure
Marine Corps Air Station El Toro
7040 Trabuco Road
Irvine, CA 92618

Subject: Response to Comments on the Draft Site Assessment
Report for IRP Site 16, Former Marine Corps Air Station
El Toro, California

Mr. Piszkin:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the response to comments dated 21 September 2004. We have determined the responses to be adequate with one exception as discussed below.

EPA Specific Comment 8, Figure 4 TPH in Soil - The original comment raised into question the adequacy of the delineation of the extent of TPHd and TPHg contamination along the northwestern edge of the historic main fire fighting pit. In particular, concern was raised as to the detections in borings IRP16-CB-01 (at 5 feet depth) and IRP16-CB-02 (at 5 and 10 feet depth). The DoN response suggests that the non-detections in borings IRP16-CB-09 and IRP16-CB-17 provide closure of the zone of contamination in this area. However, the analytical data for boring IRP16-CB-09 begin at 20 feet depth while the detections of issue in nearby boring IRP16-CB-02 are at 5 and 10 feet depth. While analytical data for boring IRP16-CB-17 are provided at 5 and 10 feet depth, this boring is located to the southwest of boring IRP16-CB-01. There are no borings located northwest and/or north of boring IRP16-CB-01 to provide closure for the detections at 5 feet depth. Will the refinement characterization work to be performed during implementation of the pilot test (see response to EPA General Comment 5) address this data gap concern?

received
10/28/04

5
If you should have any questions regarding this comment, please
contact me at 415-972-3349.

Sincerely,

Rich Muza

Rich Muza, RPM
Superfund Division

cc: Marc P. Smits, DoN
Content Arnold, DoN
Tayseer Mahmoud, DTSC
John Broderick, RWQCB
Bob Woodings, RAB
Marcia Rudolph, RAB